

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jan 24-26 - US Conference of Mayors Annual Winter Meetings

USCM President, Mayor Landrieu (New Orleans), restructured the conference; in lieu of business meetings, many of the Standing Committees participated in sessions addressing priority issues. One such session of note: *Mayor Jon Mitchell (New Bedford)*, Chair, Energy Committee, moderated a session on Energy: Powering Smart Cities Through New Energy Technologies and Partnerships.

Feb 12 (Week of) - OW & OLEM Bipartisan Budget Briefing

Transportation and Infrastructure Water Resources and Environment Subcommittee staff.

Feb & Mar - Repealing the Clean Power Plan Listening Sessions

Feb 21 Kansas City, MO; Feb 28 San Francisco, CA; Mar 27; Gillette, WY

Hearings

Jan 23 - Performance of the Electric Power System Under Certain Weather Conditions

Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Jan 25 – The Road to Tomorrow: Energy Innovation in Automotive Technologies

Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources field hearing re: opportunities and challenges facing vehicle technologies, especially energy-relevant technologies.

Jan 30 - Oversight Hearing to Receive Testimony from EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt

Senate Environment and Public Works Committee

Jan 30 – Department of Energy: Management and Priorities

House Committee on Science and Technology.

Feb 6 – Pesticide Registration Review and Glyphosate

House Committee on Science and Technology.

Appropriations

Continuing Resolution

On Jan 22, a three-week Continuing Resolution was signed, ending the partial shutdown. The Senate passed the CR with an 81-18 vote, and the House approved the measure with a 266-150 vote shortly after. The latest CR funds the government through Feb 8.

Feb 12 - The President's Budget for FY 2019 is currently slated to be released

LEGISLATION

New England Delegation Legislation with Recent Activity

H.R.4812 — Cicilline (RI) 21st Century Buy American Act

To amend the Buy American Act to provide greater transparency regarding exceptions to domestic sourcing requirements, and for other purposes.

S.2321 — Warren (MA), Transition Team Ethics Improvement Act

Amend Presidential Transition Act of 1963 to require the development of ethics plans for certain transition teams, and for other purposes. Cosponsors: Hassan (NH), Markey (MA). A companion House bill (H.R.4826) was introduced by Rep. Cummings (MD) and co-sponsored by Lynch (MA), Welch (VT).

S. 2198 – Booker (NY)/Menendez (NJ)/Whitehouse (RI), Superfund Polluter Pays Restoration Act of 2017; To amend the IRC of 1986 to reinstate the financing for the Hazardous Substance Superfund.

S.2298 Whitehouse (RI), New England Coastal Protection Act

To prohibit oil and gas leasing on the Outer Continental Shelf off the coast of New England. Co-sponsors: Markey (MA), Hassan (NH), Shaheen (NH), Reed (RI), King (ME), Warren (MA), Blumenthal (CT), Collins (ME), Murphy (CT). A companion House bill (H.R.4774) was introduced by Cicilline (RI) and co-sponsored by: Capuano (MA), Clark (MA), DeLauro (CT), Esty (CT), Himes (CT), Keating (MA), Kennedy (MA), Kuster (NH), Langevin (RI), Larson (CT), Lynch (MA), McGovern (MA) Moulton (MA), Neal (MA), Pingree (ME), Shea-Porter (NH), Tsongas (MA), Welch (VT), Poliquin (ME), Courtney (CT).

S.756 Sullivan (AK)/Whitehouse (RI), Save Our Seas Act

To reauthorize and amend the Marine Debris Act to promote international action to reduce marine debris. Jan 9, EPA meeting with Senators Sullivan and Whitehouse. 21 Co-sponsors including: Sen. Angus King (ME); Sen. Susan Collins (ME); Sen. Elizabeth Warren (MA); Sen/ Edward Markey (MA); Sen. Jeanne Shaheen (NH); Sen. Chis Murphy (CT).

New England Delegation Legislation with No New Activity

S.519 Gillibrand/Schumer (NY), requires SDWA MCLG and MCL for PFOA, PFOS, 1,4-dioxane, and perchlorate within two years.

To amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to require the Administrator of the EPA to establish maximum contaminant levels for certain contaminants, and promulgate a national primary drinking water regulation. Cosponsors: Sen. Schumer, Charles E. [D-NY] Sen. Hassan, Margaret Wood [D-NH].

S.675 Gillibrand (NY), Long Island Sound Funding

To amend and reauthorize certain provisions relating to Long Island Sound restoration and stewardship. Cosponsors: Sen. Schumer, Charles E. (D-NY) Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT], Sen. Murphy, Chris [D-CT].

S.914 Shaheen (NH)/Portman (OH), Enhances Federal Coordination and State Assistance for Emerging Contaminant Testing and Analysis.

Also referred to as the “Safe Drinking Water Assistance Act of 2017.” Cosponsors: Sen. Portman, Rob [R-OH], Sen. Hassan, Margaret Wood [D-NH].

S.1769 Hassan (NH), Connected Government Act

Requires a federal agency that creates or updates a public website ensure that it is mobile friendly.
On Dec 14 the bill was placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 285.

S.1979 — Murphy (CT) A bill to block the implementation of certain presidential actions that restrict individuals from certain countries from entering the United States.

Introduced on Oct 18 with 30 co-sponsors. Two additional co-sponsors added Sen. Wyden [D-OR] & Sen. Udall [D-NM].

S.2232 King (ME), Amend the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978

Provide for the integration of distributed energy resources, to modernize electricity grid infrastructure.

On Dec 14, the bill was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R.1176 – Pingree (ME) Keep America's Waterfronts Working Act

amends the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 to direct the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to establish a Working Waterfront Grant Program. Cosponsors: Rep. Wittman (R-VA-1), Rep. Keating (D-MA-9). Nov 2, subcommittee hearings held.

H.R. 1674 DeLauro (CT), LI Sound Restoration Reauthorization.

Reauthorizes the Management Conference of the LIS Study, the LIS Stewardship Act of 2006, the LIS Grants, and LIS Stewardship Grants through FY23. Cosponsors: Rep. Zeldin, Lee M. [R-NY-1], Rep. Suozzi, Thomas R. [D-NY-3], Rep. Courtney, Joe [D-CT-2], Rep. Himes, James A. [D-CT-4], Rep. Esty, Elizabeth H. [D-CT-5], Rep. Larson, John B. [D-CT-1], Rep. King, Peter T. [R-NY-2], Rep. Engel, Eliot L. [D-NY-16].

H.R. 1758 Rep. Katko (NY)/Rep. Esty (CT); The Brownfields Reauthorization Act of 2017.

Would reauthorize the Brownfields program at the EPA. 7/27/17 was reported by the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. Cosponsors: Rep. Katko, John [R-NY-24], Rep. DeFazio, Peter A. [D-OR-4], Rep. Napolitano, Grace F. [D-CA-32]. On Nov 21, the House Report was amended by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H. Rept. 115-419, Part I.

H.R.4209 – Larson (CT) Rebuild Nation's Infrastructure, Provide Consumer Rebate, Assist Coal Country, Reduce Harmful Pollution 16 Cosponsors including Rep. Capuano (D-MA). Nov 1, Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, Energy and Commerce, Agriculture, Education and the Workforce, Natural Resources, and Science, Space, and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned. On Nov 14, Referred to the Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources.